



ARUBA TODAY

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Today is a great day for a visit to King Fred & Princess Diana Restaurant!

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Surveillance has caught hackers and fentanyl smugglers

By NOMAAN MERCHANT

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The U.S. has used electronic surveillance programs to catch fentanyl smugglers and the hackers who temporarily shut down a major U.S. fuel pipeline, the White House said Tuesday as part of its push to have those programs renewed by Congress. Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act expires at the end of this year.

President Joe Biden's administration is trying to convince Congress to renew the law, which authorizes spy agencies to capture huge swaths of foreign emails and phone calls. But lawmakers in both parties have concerns about protecting Americans' privacy from warrantless searches after a series of FBI errors and misuses of intelligence data.

As part of its public campaign, the Biden administration released what it said were newly declassified examples of how U.S. intelligence uses Section 702. And the FBI announced new penalties for employees who misuse intelligence data in advance of a Senate Judiciary Committee Tuesday during which both Democrats and Republicans rebuked the bureau.

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Senate Judiciary Oversight Committee Chair Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., speaks during a hearing to examine Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and related surveillance authorities, Tuesday, June 13, 2023, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

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Surveillance has caught hackers and fentanyl smugglers

continued from Front

Previous administrations have oftencited the importance of Section 702 in stopping terrorism. But two decades after the Sept. 11 attacks, the U.S. public is broadly skeptical of intelligence agencies and less certain of sacrificing civil liberties for security.

This time, the White House and supporters of Section 702 are targeting concerns over fentanyl, a synthetic opioid blamed for 75,000 U.S. deaths last year, and the shutdown of Colonial Pipeline, which led to gas shortages along the East Coast two years ago.

Senior administration officials briefed reporters on the new examples Monday on condition of anonymity under ground rules set by the White House.

Among the other examples the officials gave: The U.S. learned about Beijing's efforts to track and repatriate Chinese dissidents; the FBI was able to warn an American who was the target of foreign spies seeking information about the



National Intelligence, George Barnes, Deputy Director of the National Security Agency (NSA), David Cohen, Deputy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), and Paul Abbate, Deputy Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), during a Senate Judiciary Oversight Committee hearing to examine Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act and related surveillance authorities, Tuesday, June 13, 2023, on Capitol Hill in Washington.

Associated Press

proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; and the U.S. identified the people behind an Iran-linked ransomware attack against nonprofit groups last year. The United States has already credited Section 702 with being used in the operation to kill al-Qaida head Ayman al-Zawahri and providing large amounts of the intelligence briefed daily to

the president and other top officials.

The administration officials said they provided more specifics to Congress in classified briefings.

"We are trying to walk a careful line here where we're trying to explain both to the public and to members of Congress the importance of Section 702," one official said. "But at the

same time, we do need to be very careful about protecting the ways in which we collect information."

Under Section 702, the National Security Agency collects large amounts of foreign emails, phone calls, and other communications that the NSA and other agencies can then search for intelligence purposes.

That collection often snaresthe communications of Americans. While U.S. spy agencies are barred from targeting U.S. citizens or businesses, they can search Americans' names in Section 702 data and the FBI can use that data to investigate domestic crimes. A series of surveillance court opinions and government reports has disclosed that FBI agents at times have failed to follow rules on searching that data. Agents wrongly ran queries for the names of a

congressman on the House Intelligence Committee, people linked to the Jan. 6 insurrection, and participants in the 2020 protests following the police killing of George Floyd.

The FBI, backed by the White House and some Democrats, argues it has instituted better training and new rules that have sharply reduced the number of searches for American citizens. Supporters of the FBI say Congress should enshrine those rules into law so they can't be rolled back easily.

The bureau said Tuesday that it would begin to immediately suspend any employee's access to Section 702 databases for an incident involving "negligence." Repeat mistakes could result in an employee being reassigned or referred for an internal investigation. □

Transgender activist no longer welcome at White House after going topless

WASHINGTON (AP) — Transgender advocate Rose Montoya is no longer welcome at White House events after posting on social media a video of herself and two others going topless for a time at Saturday's Pride Month celebration on the South Lawn.

"The behavior was simply unacceptable," White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre said Tuesday. "It was unfair to the hundreds of attendees who were there to celebrate their families."

Speaking at the White House press briefing, Jean-Pierre said, "Individuals in the video certainly will not be invited to future events." The White House spokeswoman said the bare-chested display "was not a normal thing that has happened under this administration."

President Joe Biden hosted the event to show the administration's support of the LGBTQ+ community. There has recently been a push by some Republican leaders at the state level to restrict drag shows and limit the options for youth who are seeking to transition their genders.

Biden said Saturday that he had a message for the entire community, but especially for transgender children: "You are loved. You are heard. You're understood. And you belong."

Parts of his speech appeared in the video posted on social media by Montoya, whose Instagram biography identifies her as an educator, model and actor.

Montoya defended her post on Instagram and Twitter, saying that "going topless in Washington, DC is legal and I fully support the movement in freeing the nipple." She said critics of her toplessness affirmed that she is, in fact, a woman, as a man would not face similar pushback. She said she had "zero intention of trying to be vulgar or be profane in anyway," adding that she covered her nipples with her hands in the video "just to play it safe." □

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House GOP passes resolution to overturn new federal gun regulation

By FARNOUSH AMIRI and LINDSAY WHITEHURST

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

House Republicans passed a resolution that would repeal a Biden administration rule tightening federal regulations on stabilizing braces for firearms, an accessory that has been used in several mass shootings in the U.S. over the last decade.

The resolution passed 219-210 on party lines and after a contentious floor debate where Republicans accused the administration of "executive overreach" and Democrats condemned a bill they said would "help kill people."

The resolution, which was introduced by Rep. Andrew Clyde, R-Ga., will now go to the Senate. Should it pass, President Joe Biden has promised a veto. Overriding a presidential veto would require two-thirds

majorities in the House and Senate.

The new rule issued by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives in January treats guns with the accessories like short-barreled rifles, a weapon that is like a sawed-off shotgun and has been heavily regulated since the 1930s. The regulation, which went into effect June 1, was one of several steps Biden announced in 2021 after a man using a stabilizing brace killed 10 people at a grocery store in Boulder, Colorado.

A stabilizing brace was also used in a shooting in Dayton, Ohio, that left nine people dead in 2019 and most recently in a school shooting in Nashville, Tennessee.

Stabilizing braces transform a pistol into a weapon that's powerful and easy to conceal, Attorney General Merrick Garland said

when he announced the rule. Originally developed for disabled veterans, gun-control groups have said the accessories have become a loophole exploited by gunmakers to make weapons more deadly.

Since taking effect earlier this month, the rule requires anyone who has a gun with an arm-stabilizing brace to register the weapon with the federal government and pay a fee, or remove the brace from their weapons.

Republicans employed the Congressional Review Act, which allows Congress to undo recently enacted executive branch regulations, to try and nullify the new rule that they claim has turned millions of gun owners into felons.



Rep. Andrew Clyde, R-Ga., walks to a closed-door meeting with Speaker of the House Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., and fellow Republicans, at the Capitol in Washington, Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

Associated Press

"This rule doesn't just infringe upon Americans' Second Amendment liberties. It represents a dangerous government overreach by the administration."

Clyde said during debate Tuesday. "Congress maintains sole legislative authority, not government agencies, not the executive branch." □

White House press secretary has violated rule against politics on the job



White House press secretary Karine Jean-Pierre speaks during the daily briefing at the White House in Washington, Wednesday, June 7, 2023.

Associated Press

By CHRIS MEGERIAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

Since taking on the role of White House press secretary, Karine Jean-Pierre has become known for frequently dodging questions by citing the Hatch Act. The law bars civil servants from politicking during their day jobs, and Jean-Pierre uses it to deflect reporters' questions involving campaigns. But apparently she wasn't careful enough. The Office of Special Counsel, a government agency that

enforces the Hatch Act, said in a recent letter that Jean-Pierre violated the law before last year's midterm elections.

Her offense: Making frequent references to "MAGA Republicans" during White House briefings. According to a letter from the Office of Special Counsel, Jean-Pierre "made those references to generate opposition to Republican candidates" and "accordingly, making the references constituted political activity." □



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New York City police commissioner resigns after 18 months

By JAKE OFFENHARTZ and MICHAEL R. SISAK

NEW YORK (AP) — New York City Police Commissioner Keechant Sewell, the first woman to hold the position, is stepping down after 18 months on the job. Sewell, who was appointed by Mayor Eric Adams, announced the resignation in an email to department staff Monday afternoon.

"While my time here will come to a close, I will never step away from advocacy and support for the NYPD, and I will always be a champion for the people of New York City," she wrote.

Adams, a Democrat, confirmed the move in a statement, thanking Sewell for her "steadfast leadership."

Sewell took over as commissioner when Adams, a former NYPD captain, became mayor in January 2022, having pledged beforehand to name a woman to the post.

During her brief tenure, she oversaw a decrease in some categories of crime — including murders — while contending with several high-profile crises, including the fatal shooting of two of-



New York City Police Commissioner Keechant Sewell stands in New York's Times Square during a news conference about New Year's Eve security, Dec. 30, 2022.

Associated Press

ficers during her first month on the job. In a statement, Patrick Lynch, the president of the Police Benevolent Association, said her leadership would be "sorely missed."

Sewell shied from New York's spotlight, rarely making herself available to press, even as Adams has made crime-fighting a centerpiece of his administration.

She also faced speculation that she was not truly in control of the department, fueled in part by Adams' decision to appoint a former NYPD chief and key ally, Phillip Banks, as a deputy mayor of public safety. Banks has been holding weekly public briefings on crime, often without Sewell in attendance. NYPD commissioners often serve abbreviated tenures

in one of the highest-pressure, most politically challenging jobs in policing. Sewell's predecessor, Dermot Shea, was in the post for two years. His predecessor, James O'Neill, lasted three. Before that, William Bratton served less than three years in his second stint as commissioner, having served for just over two years under Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

The notable exception is former commissioner Raymond Kelly, who served for 16 months under former Mayor David Dinkins, then returned and was commissioner for all 12 years that Michael Bloomberg was mayor.

Sewell started with the Nassau County Police Department as a patrol officer in 1997, then became a precinct commander, head of major cases, a top hostage negotiator and finally chief of detectives, where she oversaw a staff of about 350 — about 1% the size of the NYPD's uniformed ranks. In his statement, Adams said Sewell deserved credit for combatting crime in New York City.

"The commissioner worked nearly 24 hours a day, seven days a week for a year and a half, and we are all grateful for her service. New Yorkers owe her a debt of gratitude."

The Adams' administration has seen a series of high-profile departures in recent weeks, including his top housing official, Jessica Katz, and the city's efficiency officer, Melanie La Rocca. □

Army renames Louisiana base for Black WWI hero



A sign at west Louisiana U.S. Army base displays the base's new name in Vernon Parish, Louisiana, Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

Associated Press

FORT JOHNSON, La. (AP) — A U.S. Army base in western Louisiana was renamed Tuesday to honor Sgt. William Henry Johnson, a Black hero of World War I who received the Medal of Honor nearly a century later.

Fort Johnson had previously been named after a Confederate commander,

Leonidas Polk. The renaming is part of the U.S. military's efforts to address historic racial injustice — work that included changing the names of nine Army posts that commemorated Confederate officers.

"Sgt. William Henry Johnson embodied the warrior spirit, and we are deeply

honored to bear his name," Brig. Gen. David Garner, the commanding general of the Joint Readiness Training Center at Fort Johnson, said in a post on Twitter. While serving on the front lines of France in 1918, Johnson fought off a German night raid near the Argonne Forest, according to the National Museum of the United States Army.

Johnson was wounded 21 times while beating back the attacking forces. He also prevented a wounded Black comrade from being taken prisoner when, after running out of grenades and ammunition, he killed two German soldiers with his knife.

"His frantic attacks broke the German morale and the enemy raiding party retreated," the Army museum's biography of Johnson says.

He survived the war, and former President Theodore Roosevelt named him one of the five bravest Americans to serve in the conflict. He insisted he was no hero, and the Army biography quotes him as saying, "There wasn't anything so fine about it. Just fought for my life. A rabbit would have done that."

His brave actions were recognized nearly a century later when he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor in 2015 "for conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty."

However, Johnson's actions were not recognized by the Army, which denied him a disability allowance and did not award him a Purple Heart. Due to his injuries, he struggled after returning home to Albany,

New York, and died of a heart condition in 1929. He was 32 years old.

The current process of renaming nine Army posts marks the first time bases will be named after Black soldiers and women.

Earlier this month, Fort Bragg in North Carolina became Fort Liberty, and Fort Benning in Georgia was renamed Fort Moore last month.

The original naming process involved members of local communities, although Black residents were left out of the conversations. Bases were named after soldiers born or raised nearby, no matter how effectively they performed their duties. Confederate Gen. Braxton Bragg is widely regarded among historians as a poor leader who did not have the respect of his troops. □

Putin says he might try to seize nearby territory in Ukraine

By JAMEY KEATEN

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Russian President Vladimir Putin suggested Tuesday that he could order his troops to try to seize more land in Ukraine to protect bordering Russian territory and asserted that Ukrainian forces had suffered "catastrophic" losses in a new counteroffensive.

In some of his most detailed remarks about the war in months, the Russian leader also said he was not contemplating a new troop mobilization, as many Russians have feared, but did not rule it out. And he reiterated Russia's claim that Ukraine was responsible for blowing up a Dnieper River dam that caused vast flooding on both sides of the front line last week in the country's south.

Putin's comments at an open meeting with military journalists and bloggers followed Kyiv's claims that Ukrainian troops had captured a handful of villages in the early stages of the counteroffensive. The meeting, which lasted more than two hours, came after Russian missile strikes in central Ukraine killed at least 11 people overnight.

Putin said Ukraine's coun-



Russian President Vladimir Putin, left, speaks during a meeting with Russian war correspondents who cover a special military operation at the Kremlin in Moscow, Russia, Tuesday, June 13, 2023.

Associated Press

teroffensive has been unsuccessful. He asserted that Ukraine lost 160 tanks and over 360 other armored vehicles, while Russia lost 54 tanks since the new assault began. Those claims could not be immediately verified. Ukrainian officials typically do not comment on losses.

The White House offered no immediate reaction to Putin's claims.

A U.S. official familiar with

American intelligence said Putin's comments were "not accurate" and cautioned about putting any stock in Russia's public assessments. The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity to offer an internal assessment, did not detail how Putin's claims were misleading.

Referring to alleged Ukrainian incursions into Russia and shelling of border regions, Putin said he was

considering whether "to create on Ukrainian territory a kind of sanitary zone at such a distance from which it would be impossible to get our territory."

It was not clear whether Russia could afford to risk expanding its gains in Ukraine while trying to repel the evolving counteroffensive in several sectors of the more than 1,000-kilometer (600-mile) front line.

In recent weeks, Russia's

border areas have come under increasing attack, with the Kremlin blaming Ukrainian forces for incursions of fighters and drone strikes.

Ukrainian authorities have not confirmed Kyiv's involvement in the attacks but have obliquely welcomed them. Russian volunteer units sympathizing with Ukraine have claimed responsibility for the incursions.

Local leaders in Russia have pleaded with the Kremlin to do more to protect residents, some of whom have been evacuated to safer areas.

Putin acknowledged that Russian authorities should have foreseen and prepared to stop such attacks. Earlier in the war, Russia's border was better protected because it held more adjacent Ukrainian territory, but Kremlin forces withdrew from much of it last fall under the brunt of a Ukrainian counteroffensive. Putin's long meeting with military bloggers, along with war correspondents from traditional news media, was a dramatic acknowledgement of their importance in conveying the Kremlin's viewpoint. □

Mayor of Mexican border city of Tijuana living at army base

MEXICO CITY (AP) — The mayor of the Mexican border city of Tijuana said she has decided to live at an army base for her own safety, after she received threats.

Mayor Montserrat Caballero announced the decision after confirming that police had found seven dead bodies stuffed in a pickup truck on Monday.

"I have received threats, so I am going to live at the base," Caballero said.

Local media reported the army base is on the southern edge of Tijuana, about 5 miles (8 kilometers) from the city hall.

Caballero did not say who the threats had come from. But it is well known that several drug cartels are wag-

ing turf battles in Tijuana, across the border from San Diego, California.



Mexican National Guards patrol among the lanes of cars entering the San Ysidro Port of Entry in Tijuana, Mexico, May 11, 2023.

Associated Press

President Andrés Manuel López Obrador said the threats had been made by

"organized crime groups," a term used in Mexico to refer to drug cartels.

López Obrador said the same threats had been received simultaneously against the governor of the border state of Baja California, a former governor and the mayor.

López Obrador said the decision to move the mayor to the army base had been made about two weeks ago, "to protect her," though he did not offer any more details on the threats. Killings in Tijuana have risen by about 9% in the last 12 months, according to the federal public safety department.

Tijuana has more homicides than any other city in Mexico, with 1,818 killings in

the 12-month period ending in May.

Caballero has acknowledged the cartels' strong presence in the past.

In 2022, after gangs car-jacked and burned at least 15 vehicles throughout the city, Caballero made a direct public appeal to stop targeting civilians.

"Today we are saying to the organized crime groups that are committing these crimes, that Tijuana is going to remain open and take care of its citizens," Caballero said in a video in 2022, adding "we also ask them to settle their debts with those who didn't pay what they owe, not with families and hard-working citizens." □

Nottingham police say man fatally stabbed 3, stole van and ran down 3 more

By JILL LAWLESS and BRIAN MELLEY

LONDON (AP) — A knife-wielding assailant stabbed two college students to death in the streets of the English city of Nottingham and then fatally stabbed a middle-aged man, stole his van and ran down three pedestrians in a shocking rampage early Tuesday morning, police said. Police arrested a 31-year-old man on suspicion of murder. The Nottinghamshire Police force said investigators believe the perpetrator acted alone and detectives were working with counterterrorism officers to try to establish a motive.

"This is a horrific and tragic incident which has claimed the lives of three people," Chief Constable Kate Meynell said.

A man who was among the people struck in the hit-and-run was hospitalized in critical condition. The dead included two 19-year-old students from the University of Nottingham.

"We are shocked and



Police forensics officers search a white van on the corner of Maples Street and Bentinck Road in Nottingham, as three people have been found dead in the city in what police described as a "horrific and tragic incident."

devastated by the news," the school said in an announcement. A graduation ball scheduled for Tuesday evening was canceled. The knife attack on the students occurred around dawn in an area near student housing a short walk

from the university's Jubilee Campus. A caller reported that two stabbing victims were lying in the street. Police think the attacker then killed a man in his 50s and took his van, Meynell said. His body was found on a

different street more than a mile from the first crime scene.

About 90 minutes after the initial attack, witnesses were horrified as they watched the van plow into pedestrians and flee.

Lynn Haggitt was on her

Associated Press

way to work when a white van pulled up beside her at 5:30 a.m. She saw the driver look in his mirror and spot a police car approaching slowly from behind without its emergency lights on. The driver then accelerated and struck a man and woman at a street corner, she said.

"He went straight into them. He didn't even bother to turn," Haggitt told reporters. "The woman went on the curb, the man went up in the air, there was such a bang, I wish I never saw it. It's really shaken me up."

The driver then sped through the city center with police on his tail, she added.

Haggitt said the wounded man appeared to have a head injury but was helped to his feet.

The woman was sitting on the curb and appeared to be OK.

A third pedestrian was struck on the same street, police said.

Two of the hit-and-run victims had minor injuries, Meynell said. □

U.N. agency: 2022 was one of deadliest for migrants in Mideast, North Africa

CAIRO (AP) — Last year was the deadliest for migrants in the Middle East and North Africa since 2017, the United Nations said Tuesday.

About 3,800 people died on migrants' sea and land routes within and from the region, according to data released by the International Organization for Migration's Missing Migrants Project.

The tally is an 11% increase compared to the 3,428 deaths recorded in 2021, and the highest since 2017, when the project documented the death of 4,255 people in the region.

"This alarming death toll on migration routes within and from the MENA region demands immediate attention and concerted efforts to enhance the safety and

protection of migrants," said Othman Belbeisi, IOM's director for the region known by its acronym MENA.

The data show that the re-

gion accounted for more than half of the 6,877 deaths the project documented across the world. The project, however, said the true tally is likely much

higher than the 3,789 documented fatalities, given the scarcity of official data and limited access to land routes in the region for civil society and international organizations.

On the region's land routes, the IOM's project documented over 1,025 deaths, while the rest occurred on sea routes to Europe, particularly in the East Mediterranean, which is one of the deadliest in the world.

The figures showed that most deaths on land took place in war-torn Yemen, where the IOM says "targeted violence against migrants has intensified."

At least 795 people, mostly Ethiopians, lost their lives on a route between Yemen and Saudi Arabia, the IOM's project said. Most of



Migrants and refugees from Africa sailing adrift on an overcrowded rubber boat, receive life jackets from aid workers of the Spanish NGO Aita Mary in the Mediterranean Sea, about 103 miles (165 km) from Libya coast, on Jan. 28, 2022.

Associated Press

the deaths occurred in Yemen's northern province of Saada, a stronghold for the Iranian-backed Houthi rebels in Yemen.

East African migrants used to cross the Bab-Al Mandab, the 31-mile (50-kilometer) strait separating Djibouti and Yemen, on small boats, aiming to cross Yemen into neighboring Saudi Arabia and then move on to other wealthy Arab Gulf states in search of work.

Libya, which has in recent years become a transit point for Europe-bound migrants who fled wars and poverty in the Middle East and Africa, recorded 117 deaths on land routes, followed by 54 fatalities in neighboring Algeria, the data showed. □

Watch out for Blue Crab Migration near Savaneta

(Oranjestad)—The department of nature & environment in Aruba are urging motorists to watch out for blue crabs crossing the road in Pos Chiquito to make their way to the ocean.

They added a new bright yellow road sign with "Land Crab Crossing" to remind people to be cautious while driving on the highway on Pos Chiquito with blue crabs.

Blue crabs in Aruba are found plenty near the beach areas, especially in Pos Chiquito, because of the amount of mangroves. They are known to dig holes deep in the beach sand in seek of humidity.

The diet of blue crabs consists of decomposed trees, insects, scorpions and rest of dead animals.



Nesting season for blue crabs is between June & July.

Why protect blue crabs?

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for the ecology of the mangroves. Conserving the blue crabs is crucial for the preservation of mangroves.

Watch out for crossing blue crabs on the highway near Pos Chiquito & Santo Largo.□

This year we celebrate 20 years of Papiamento as the official language of Aruba

On May 21, 2023, it was exactly 20 years since the Parliament approved the law that made Papiamento the official language of Aruba. This law is called "Landsverordening officiële talen" (Official Languages Ordinance). Through this law, both Papiamento and Dutch became the official languages of Aruba alongside each other.

The goal of the law

In the explanatory memorandum of the law, it is explained that the objective of this law is to formally establish that Papiamento and Dutch are the official languages of Aruba. The memorandum further emphasizes that these two languages have equal value. The law aims to promote the use of Papiamento in the government and legal sectors. It also opens the possibility for citizens to request the translation of government documents into Papiamento if they have a legitimate interest. This will encourage government departments to write bilingual documents in Papiamento.

Reason for the law

For quite some time, and especially since Aruba's Status Aparte, there has been a growing desire to use Papiamento as a language with equal value to Dutch in all areas of the community, both spoken and written. People have become more aware of their cultural identity and the importance of language in this process. This is also explained in the explanatory memorandum of the law.

Papiamento in education

Until the 20th century, Dutch was the only language of instruction in most schools in the ABC islands. Prominent individuals have argued since the 19th century that this was not the best instructional approach. The inadequate command of Dutch among students affected their performance in other subjects, not just Dutch itself. These issues persist in education to this day. Despite over 80% of households speaking Pa-

pimento (Pilot Census October 2019), Papiamento has not played a significant role as a language of instruction, except in the two pilot schools of the Multilingual School Project. Most students in Aruba are literate (reading and writing) in Dutch, which is a foreign language for them. Additionally, Aruba has a Dutch education system, and the value of diplomas is crucial for those who wish to pursue further studies.

The question is: How can we ensure that students have a solid foundation in their mother tongue while also providing them with the tools to continue their studies? How can we establish a continuous language pathway from early childhood education to higher education? Over the years, extensive research has been conducted on this topic, particularly regarding the language of instruction, which remains a sensitive issue. To address this problem, the Minister of Education and Sports, Mr. Endy Croes, assigned the Department of Education (DEA) the task of conducting a National Debate. This process took place from March to December 2022, involving more than 50 consultations with various stakeholders within and outside of the education sector. In December, the DEA commission responsible for the task provided a preliminary advice to the minister, and in March 2023, the final advice was delivered. The majority of stakeholders expressed the desire for students to learn four languages in school, including Papiamento, to develop their multilingual skills. Most agree that students should become literate in Papiamento and learn Dutch to a level that allows them to pursue education in Dutch at the secondary and higher levels.

Papiamento in everyday life

Although most Arubans speak an average of four languages (Papiamento, Dutch, English and Spanish), the majority of citizens on the island speak Papiamento at home and outside, often time most fluent-

ly than the other languages. Not only does Papiamento form a part of our historical and cultural development, but to some extent, our personal development as well.

Our native language is one of the many aspects of our identity that connect us with the trailblazers that have come before us, with our fellow man in the present, and with the future generation of Arubans. Papiamento is ingrained in all our everyday activities, whether it be in a professional or personal setting. It is for this reason that we hold such pride for our native tongue, and continue to strive for its promotion and further development.□

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Today is a great day for a visit to King Fred & Princess Diana Restaurant!



This unique restaurant situated in Aruba's only Dutch windmill is definitely worth a visit. With the essence of the Netherlands combined with the warmth of Aruba, you are in for a real Royal treat.

Breakfast with Princess Diana

Do you want to start your day with the most mouth-watering pancakes? What are you waiting for? Take a stroll until the end of the strip where you will find the one and only Dutch windmill on the island! Walk in, take a

seat and have yourself a Royal treat. The staff will welcome you with the biggest smile and make sure that you feel right at home. There you can choose from a great variety of Dutch pancakes with fresh fruits, sweet & salty pancakes or just regular ones which you can personalize with an extra side of fresh fruits, bacon or just plain yoghurt with the option to add banana to the yoghurt. And for the kids there is a special option of 5 little smiley pancakes with sprinkles. Combine your breakfast with a hot and strong coffee of choice: from



Dutch coffee, espresso or double espresso to a nice and rich latte or cappuccino. Also tea and hot chocolate with whipped cream are on the famous menu. Or, you can just go wild and ask for one of the most delicious Special Coffees. Cold drinks are also available! Frappe, Iced coffee, sodas and juices, but also mimosas, prosecco and of course, Bloody Mary to wipe out the bloody hangover from the night before.

Dinner with King Fred

From 5pm - 9.30pm you can take your wildest ride with the most popular chicken dishes on the island! Kick start the night with a bowl of soup or an appetizer to tickle your palate. Chicken with foie gras ravioli, chicken cheeser or King Fred's famous chicken salad with apple, walnuts, parmesan cheese and sweet & sour dressing are part of the appetizer menu.

Main dishes

King Fred is all about chicken and chicken only. Not just chicken but, Fred's chicken! On the menu you have an array of chicken dishes like Drunk chicken, prepared in red wine and served with mashed potatoes and mushrooms; Chicken parmesan and pasta smothered in a rich tomato sauce; Indian chicken served with rice, potatoes, green beans & curry masala sauce; Italian chicken pot pie with spinach, mushrooms and creamy Italian sauce under a puff pastry sheet; chicken truffle tagliatelle pasta with chicken and creamy truffle sauce; a juicy Chicken burger prepared with our homemade spice mix on a slice of brioche bread with bacon strips, onions, mushrooms, lettuce, Gouda cheese, piccalilli mayonnaise, French fries & coleslaw.

It's been said that Fred's chickens are the ones to die for!

Compliment your dish with a side of your choice and voila..!

For the meat and fish lovers, ask your waiter for the options because we love you too.

Drinks

The drink menu is carefully selected with the most popular cocktails, wines and beers.

After dinner you can enjoy one of the delicious special made coffees or after dinner cocktails, or you can hop upstairs to Fransjes Bar by Frans, who is a well-known bartender in the Aruban hospitality industry. He will serve you cold drinks and a great view for a reasonable price.

Make your reservations now! King Fred & Princess Diana opens from Wednesday – Sunday from 8am – 1pm for breakfast and from 5pm – 9.30pm for dinner! Situated in Aruba's only Dutch windmill, walking distance from all the major hotels.

King Fred & Princess Diana Restaurant is the best place to end your vacation! ☺

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Evenings we serve dinner:
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We are open from
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The Brownstone Ribs & Seafood

Coming Soon: Auntie Anne's Pretzels

**Klepaski's Celebrate 15th Wedding Anniversary at Playa Linda**

Mr. and Mrs. Walter Klepaski are celebrating their 15th wedding anniversary at the Playa Linda Beach Resort from June 17th to June 25th, where they were married on the beach June 13th, 2008. They have been timeshare owners at the Playa Linda since 2007.

Walter and Grace first vacationed at the Playa Linda in May of 2006 and immediately fell in love with the resort, the friendliness of the staff and all the beauty Aruba has to offer.

The Klepaski's reside in Pittston, Pennsylvania, retired in 2013, and have a blended family consisting of five children and nine grandchildren ranging in ages from 3 to 29. Their oldest grandson Christopher Cinti was married this year on June 4th and spent his honeymoon with his wife Allie at the Playa Linda.

Shown in the photo are Walter and Grace Klepaski on their wedding day on the beach at Playa Linda. □

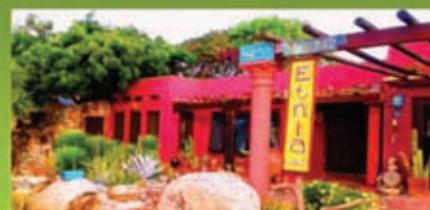
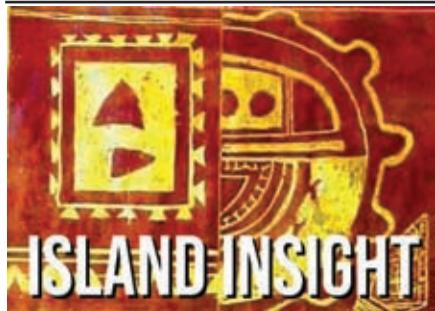
**Prohibited by law: leaving the island with seashells, white sand or corals**

(Oranjestad)—Often times, the customs department at the airport intercepts many tourists leaving the island with seashells, white sand and/or corals as souvenirs.

Conforming to the international treaty of CITES and our local law which protects our Flora & Fauna, it is absolutely prohibited to take any seashell, sand and coral outside of Aruba. This is to protect our environment. The high number of seashells, coral and amount of sand confiscated is very strange and it is suspected that our own locals are the ones selling these to the tourists, which is unacceptable. Upon confiscation at the airport, you can also face a fine that they have to pay before leaving. This is surely not a pleasant experience for the tourist. This also leads to a negative reaction which can put our tourism in a negative light.

Though we love to accommodate our visitors, let's all give nature the respect it deserves by protecting our environment. Stop collecting seashells, white sand and corals from our shores and stop buying or accepting these from local sellers or companies.

We want our future generations and visitors to enjoy the beauty of our beaches, shells and corals in a sustainable way, without destroying or disrupting the Aruban ecosystem. Help us protect what is ours! □



Article by Etnia Nativa

WhatsApp us 592 2702 and book your Aruban experience!

Etnia Nativa is close to high rise Hotels



Bats are valuable pollinators

Island Insight is about native knowledge, transcendental wisdom regarding Aruban millenarian heritage, upholding the cultural identity in each of its weekly episodes, sharing education, and encouraging readers to experience a true and authentic island state of mind.

During this episode, we want you to meet some amazing creatures that often represent death in the sense of letting go of the old and bringing in the new but are generally seen as symbols of transition, initiation, and the beginning of a cycle. While some associate these particular mammals with darkness, evil, witchcraft, and death, for others they are symbols of diligence, of imparting wisdom, and of being reborn because they dive into dark caves early in the morning and are reborn every night leaving their shelters. Let's learn how important and valuable they are as pollinators.

The pre-Columbian culture displayed the bat as one of their legendary gods. They are often part of the paintings and drawings of older times. Bat figures are also found in prehistoric artwork and stone work like pendants or pottery. People are often fascinated with bats. In fact, one of the largest tourist attractions in Austin, Texas, is where more than 1.5 million bats roost during the summer months. More than 100,000 tourists come to this area annually. The truth is that a healthy population of bats is crucial for a healthy ecosystem, maintaining a balance in the fragile biodiversity of our island and providing incalculable benefits as they are great pollinators that basically feed on the flowers and fruits of columnar cacti that bloom at night, as well as agave flowers and other plants. Approximately eight different species of bats have been identified in Aruba: insect-eating bats, fruit-eating bats, and nectar-eating bats.

Several species of Aruban bats eat nectar, and many types of plants endemic to our ecosystem depend on bats for pollination and seed dispersal, such as the quebedexi and the huliba tree, agave species, the candelabra cacti such as cadushi, cadushi plushi, and breba, etc. Throughout the island and in our



national park, long-nosed and long-tongued bats are perfectly adapted to pollinate these plants, providing extensive value to the biosphere. So the next time you see our agave in bloom, say thank you to the bats. Insectivorous bats feed on insects from sunset until the darkest hours, saving islands that annually import millions of Aruban guilders worth of toxic pesticides. There are fewer insects when bats are around that hunt insects, and there are fewer insect pests that cause damage to vegetables and garden plants. If outdoor farming is to become the next big thing, farmers won't have to invest as much in pesticides and will build roosting boxes for bats to welcome them to stay and spread while collecting their guano fertilizer. A bat eats up to three times its weight in an average night! It is also good to know that bat dung has

been extracted as guano from caves and used as fertilizer.

As bats were very important to the early settlers of Aruba, incorporating these flying mammals into artistic expressions stands as testimony at the Etnia Nativa living-art museum.

The unique museum-home emphasizes promotion, encouragement, and education regarding valuable Aruban heritage assets to protect. Understanding decoration as a communicative instrument, its designs and productions start from the moment the owner/artist locates the right source to extract the same raw earth material that would have generated the products according to the procedure of the ancestral inhabitants of the island, who used, among other techniques, local clay for their ceramic vessels and ritual objects. If you want to know all about our island, plunge yourself into Etnia Nativa and live the native effect, absorbing ancestral knowledge inside a gorgeous property and its tours conducted by its owner using art works, objects, artifacts, and historical familiar furniture dating from 1640 before Dutch occupation and explaining the story of Aruba. Thus, by visiting Etnia Nativa, you will help share the locals concerns for conserving this fragile travel destination, and your mind will change from observer to conservator. Highly recommended!

R.S.V.P. etnianativa03@gmail.com or WhatsApp (no calls) +297 592 2702. □



You can help adding some happiness: Springboard to Work for the disabled



Oranjestad-Foundation Trampolin pa Trabou, translated Trampoline to Work, makes the difference between 'hidden and seen'. "This is all about acknowledgement by society that persons with a limitation count too. Our clients can do a lot; you just need to open yourself up to them. To them it is so much more than a job. Here we give them self-esteem, skills, happiness and a pay check. Emotionally and financially we—and hopefully you—empower. Who does not want to be part of that?" says Manager Lionel Rumnit, the motor behind the foundation, driving force by skills and heart. Rumnit also is a certified Job Coach, teaching is in his veins.

Trampolin pa Trabou is part of Foundation Sonrisa and offers a day care and teaching school for adults with limitations. "Meaning: preparing the clients in this

building to give them the best starting qualifications as possible to begin working. We have deaf, visually impaired, Down Syndrome, Autism and other kind of limitations, but that does not mean you cannot work," Rumnit explains. He reaches out to the private sector, as well as the government to find job opportunities; two assistants take care of the daily in-house tasks and administration and three to six trainees from EPI College plus the cook complete the team. "We have 15 to 20 clients approximately for the full day, together with the ones that have a job we are 40 to 50, of course not all at the same time." It is a built-up process whereas clients start with a couple of days and accumulate. Rumnit: "I have more requests than I can handle, therefore we could use support in many ways, and an incentive to companies for hiring our clients would also be more

than desirable."

In-House Program

Attitude, work ethic, structure and discipline are all part of the program. In the morning, they pack away their bags and start an exercise program to activate their bodies and their brains, after that several tasks begin. "This can be cleaning, helping the cook in the kitchen or organizing. All tasks are timed to teach them to work efficient and be responsible. It starts playful but on the way gets serious," says Rumnit. 40 to 50 healthy meals are prepared on a daily basis for outside clients. "It gives my people work and an income." Work and income are provided as well with the production of ginger syrup, lemonade, sauces and turmeric. "After the ginger is brought in here, we scrub and wash, chop it up and grind it by machine. The cook cooks it and we also clean and fill the bottles plus stick the etiquettes on them. It gives 2-3 clients daily work, teaching, empowerment and income." The ginger is sold in all big supermarkets.

7,000 Disabled and More

The need of companies that open up to the foundations clients is significant. "A lot of hotels and companies already cooperate; it is not always easy but very rewarding. Social responsibility is a part of society,

do not know about these people. Most are live isolated or hidden because of the taboo and the shame of the family.

If you feel inspired by this article, do not just turn the page but act upon it. You can help and support this wonderful foundation to jump higher every time. The foundation welcomes:

- More companies with job opportunities
- Financial support for their own bus to pick up clients and take them to work
- Donations for example Christmas baskets or supplies
- A sign language interpreter
- Anybody with expertise in the field to share knowledge/contribute
- Visitors & Ideas

If you would like to visit the foundation, please call + (297) 582-9485 and ask for Lionel Rumnit. If you would like to donate, the bank account is Arubabank 239-7220-290 Foundation Trampolin pa Trabou, Pavia 13-E, Oranjestad. For more information visit the website: <https://www.trampolinpatrabou.com> or Facebook: Trampolinpatrabou. Thank You! □



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 40 Close,

1 Cheese as a port choice

41 Therefore

6 Sandbox 42 West

toy Point

10 Carved student

gem

11 Shop tool DOWN

12 Turn red, maybe

Yesterday's answer

13 Blood line

14 Infamous czar

15 "Golly!"

16 Fellows

17 "East of Eden" son

18 Simple denials

19 Lion or wolf, e.g.

22 Spill over

23 Neighbor

26 IOU holder

29 Fido's foot

32 Auditor's org.

33 Bunion spot

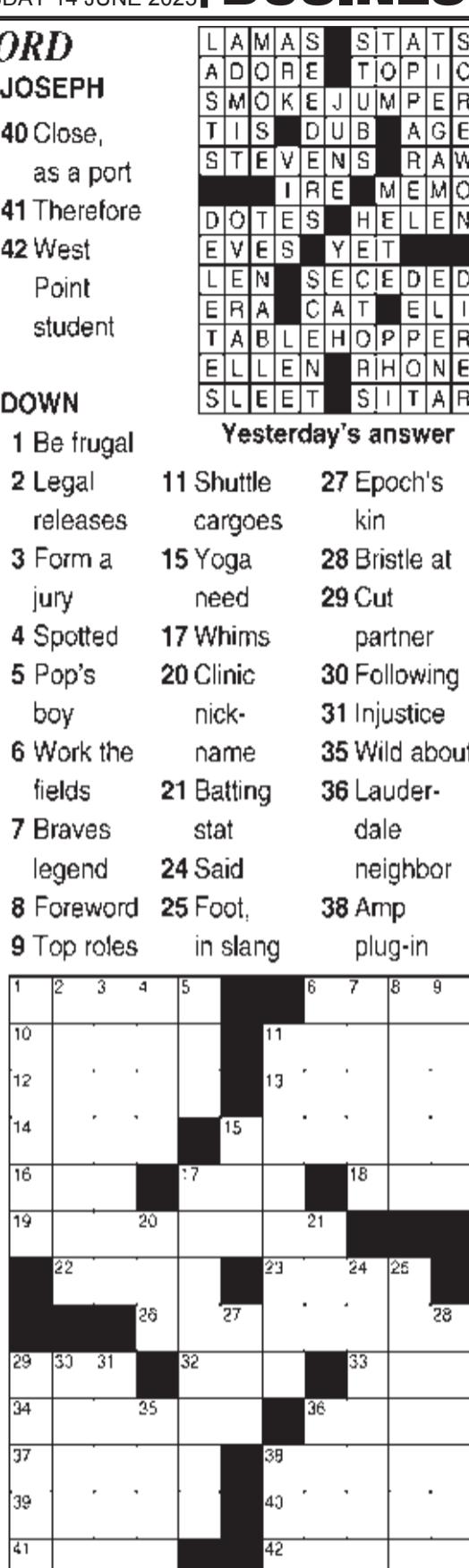
34 Serengeti setting

36 Plays the ponies

37 Ring thing

38 Code name

39 Scout shelters



6-14

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

6-14 CRYPTOQUOTE

Q E I F B Y W N W C B R B K E N Y B Q I Z

Y C R J B W B Q R Q E N Q V X L I X P Q

X D Q E I J N M I R N Q K B M E Q .

— B R N Y I F N F F I K Z I

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: JUNE IS THE TIME FOR BEING IN THE WORLD IN NEW WAYS, FOR THROWING OFF THE COLD AND DARK SPOTS OF LIFE. — JOAN D. CHITTISTER

Cases of check fraud escalate dramatically, with Americans warned not to mail checks if possible

By KEN SWEET

NEW YORK (AP) —

Check fraud is back in a big way, fueled by a rise in organized crime that is forcing small businesses and individuals to take additional safety measures or to avoid sending checks through the mail altogether.

Banks issued roughly 680,000 reports of check fraud to the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, also known as FinCEN, last year. That's up from 350,000 reports in 2021. Meanwhile the U.S. Postal Inspection Service reported roughly 300,000 complaints of mail theft in 2021, more than double the prior year's total.

Early in the pandemic, government relief checks became an attractive target for criminals. The problem has only gotten worse and postal authorities and bank officials are warning Americans to avoid mailing checks if possible, or at least to use a secure mail drop such as inside the post office. Meanwhile, as the cases of fraud increase, victims are waiting longer to recover their stolen money.

Check usage has been in decline for decades as Americans have largely switched to paying for their services with credit and debit cards. Americans wrote roughly 3.4 billion checks in 2022, down from nearly 19 billion checks in 1990, according to the Federal Reserve. However, the average size of the checks Americans write rose from \$673 in 1990 or \$1,602 in today's dollars to \$2,652 last year.

"Despite the declining use of checks in the United States, criminals have been increasingly targeting the U.S. Mail since the COVID-19 pandemic to commit check fraud," FinCEN wrote in an alert sent out in February.

Checks are still frequently used by small businesses.

Eric Fischgrund, who runs FischTank PR, a 30-person public relations firm in New York, had about 15 checks that were being mailed to him from clients stolen after they all went through the same Postal Service distribution center. Ten of them were successfully cashed by criminals. □

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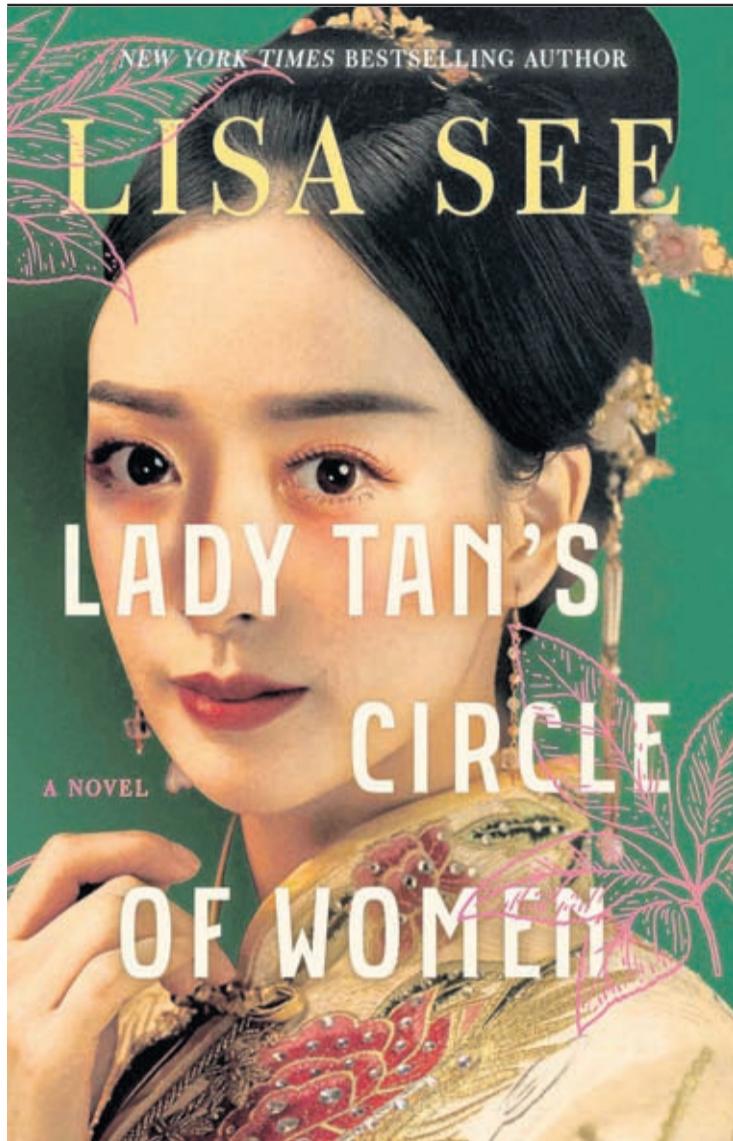
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This cover image released by Scribner shows "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" by Lisa See.

Associated Press

By JOHN ROGERS
Associated Press

Soon after she published her last novel, 2019's "The Island of Sea Women," Lisa See joined much of the rest of the world in seclusion, sheltering at her Los Angeles home to avoid the deadly coronavirus.

Little did the prolific, 68-year-old author realize that would lead directly to one of her most meticulously researched, fascinating and ultimately enjoyable

works, "Lady Tan's Circle of Women." As she paced back and forth past a shelf filled with research books, See saw one on women's health in Imperial China that had sat there unread for 10 years. With nothing better to do, she opened it and learned of a woman named Tan Yunxian, a brilliant but now all but forgotten doctor who at age 50 had published a groundbreaking book in 1511 detailing all of her medical cases to that time. Immediately, a new novel was being crafted. But unlike earlier See works such as "Shanghai Girls," "Dreams of Joy" or "The Tea Girl of Hummingbird Lane," which are set in historic but more modern times and in which Western and Asian culture often meet, this one centers strictly on the days of China's Ming Dynasty. But like the others, it is also fiction based on fact.

Told in Lady Tan's voice, her story begins in 1469, when its subject, the precocious 8-year-old member of a young family, is just beginning the traditional and very painful process of female foot binding. In

just seven more years, she is told, she'll be ready for an arranged marriage, one that to her delight turns out to be happy.

Long before that, however, her mother dies at age 28, most likely of a foot-binding infection. She, her brother, nanny and her father's concubine are hustled off to the estate of her wealthy physician grandparents in the prosperous city of Wuxi. There, her grandmother takes a shine to the bright, inquisitive girl and, seeing her interest, begins to teach her medicine. It's a fortuitous move because most women of the time had few rights and even a female physician's were limited. As her mother warned her from her deathbed, "Whether animal or woman, we are a man's possessions. We women exist to give him heirs and feed, clothe and amuse him."

At the same time, female patients in many cases could only be treated by a woman doctor, and Lady Tan cares for them all, from peasants to people of means. As with any See novel, there is plenty of in-

trigue as concubines conspire to move their sons into important positions of power or even replace wives with themselves while various sycophants plan poisonings and murder. Through it all, Lady Tan perseveres with help from her family and her childhood best friend, Meiling, a girl who, despite much lesser means, grows up to be a midwife, delivering babies and saving lives, including that of her closest friend. With Meiling and others she forms unbreakable bonds of trust. As the years pass, Lady Tan develops numerous herbal and other natural remedies for everything from easing menstrual cramps to fighting obesity, injury and other ailments. Many are said to still be in use, saved from obscurity by a nephew who republished her book nearly 30 years after her death at age 96.

But at its heart, "Lady Tan's Circle of Women" is much more than a story about a pioneering doctor. It's a tale of enduring friendship and the effect it can have both in the moment and centuries afterward. □

Fox News sends Tucker Carlson cease-and-desist letter over Twitter series, reports say

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fox News sent Tucker Carlson a cease-and-desist letter over his new Twitter series, Axios reported Monday, amid reports of a contract battle between the conservative network and its former prime-time host.

Carlson was ousted from Fox in late April, less than a week after Fox agreed to pay Dominion Voting Systems nearly \$800 million to settle an explosive defamation case. The network provided no explanation for the firing, but a wave of reports on damaging text messages and other statements Carlson made during his time at Fox have

since piled up.

Since leaving Fox, Carlson kicked off a "Tucker on Twitter" series arguing that Twitter was "the only" major remaining platform that allows free speech as he denounced news media. The series, which has published two episodes so far, has appeared to escalate contract tensions between Carlson and Fox.

Fox has demanded Carlson stop posting videos to Twitter, The New York Times also reported Monday as the network's lawyers accuse Carlson of violating his contract, which runs until early 2025 and restricts his ability to appear on other media outlets. Meanwhile,

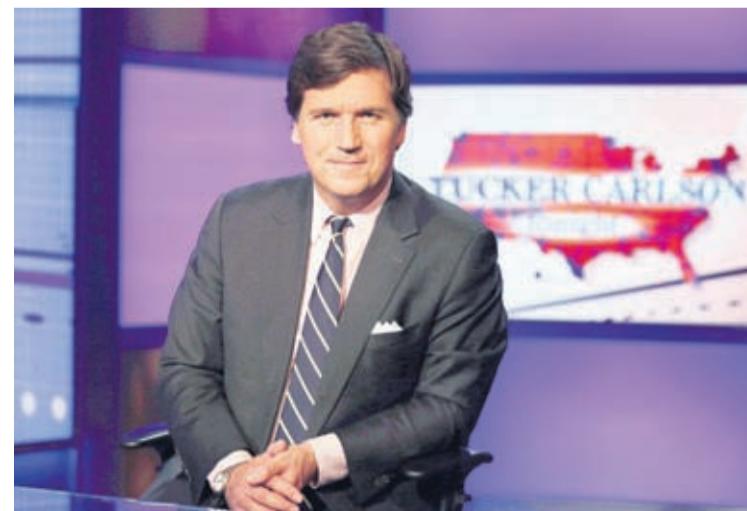
Carlson's lawyers have said the network breached the contract first.

A spokesperson for Fox News Media and attorneys representing Carlson, Bryan Freedman and Harmeeet Dhillon, did not immediately return The Associated Press' requests for comments on Tuesday.

"Doubling down on the most catastrophic programming decision in the history of the cable news industry, Fox is now demanding that Tucker Carlson be silent until after the 2024 election," Dhillon said in a statement sent to Axios and the Times. "Tucker will not be silenced by anyone." Before his April firing,

Carlson was Fox's top-rated host. His stew of grievances and political theories grew to define the network over

recent years and made him an influential, and widely controversial, force in GOP politics. □



Tucker Carlson, host of "Tucker Carlson Tonight," poses for photos in a Fox News Channel studio on March 2, 2017, in New York.
Associated Press

PGA Tour was left on its own to fend off Saudis

By DOUG FERGUSON

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Commissioner Jay Monahan has told congressional members the PGA Tour was "left on our own" to fend off Saudi Arabia's bid to take over the sport with LIV Golf because of the United States' geopolitical alliance with the kingdom.

Monahan sent the letter to various lawmakers on June 9, three days after the PGA Tour's stunning announcement of an agreement with Saudi Arabia's sovereign wealth fund and the European tour to pool commercial business and rights in a new company.

The agreement, while still not finalized, would end all litigation between the PGA Tour and the Public Investment Fund. In the last year, LIV Golf had lured away some of golf's biggest stars with signing bonuses of \$100 million or more, prompting the PGA Tour to respond by pouring millions into its own tournament purses.

"During this intense battle, we met with several Members of Congress and policy experts to discuss the PIF's attempt to take over the game of golf in the United States, and suggested ways that Congress could support us in these efforts," Monahan wrote. "While we are grateful for the written declarations of support we received from certain members, we were largely left on our own to fend off



PGA Tour Commissioner Jay Monahan speaks during a news conference before the start of the Travelers Championship golf tournament at TPC River Highlands, Wednesday, June 22, 2022, in Cromwell, Conn.

Associated Press

the attacks, ostensibly due to the United States' complex geopolitical alliance with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. "This left the very real prospect of another decade of expensive and distracting litigation and the PGA TOUR's long-term existence under threat." Three days after Monahan's letter — first reported by Politico and obtained by The Associated Press — the leader of a Senate subcommittee demanded records from the PGA Tour and Saudi golf interests amid "serious questions" on how the agreement came about. Sen. Richard Blumenthal,

D-Conn., the chairman of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations, also said he wanted to hear the PGA Tour's plan to keep tax-exempt status. It was not clear to whom Monahan sent his letter because that was redacted, though it was believed not every member of Congress received it.

"We believe that we did everything we could possibly do to defend what we stand for, including spending tens of millions of dollars to defend ourselves from litigation instigated by LIV Golf — significant funds diverted away from our core mission to benefit our play-

ers and generate charity," Monahan said.

He said the tour secured a federal court ruling that PIF was not protected under the Foreign Service Sovereignty Act because a judge had said the Saudi wealth fund was doing commercial business in the U.S. That ruling has been appealed to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Denver, extending the antitrust lawsuits through at least the middle of next year. Monahan said the agreement was not a merger with LIV Golf, a 48-man league that has a team component and plays eight of its 14 tournaments in the United

States. The announcement last week was for PIF, the PGA Tour and European tour to pool their business interests — that includes PIF-funded LIV Golf. Still unclear is whether LIV Golf continues after this year and how players who defected from the PGA Tour could return.

Monahan has referred to the agreement only as a framework, and even in a hostile player meeting last week at the Canadian Open, he could not offer many details.

In his letter to lawmakers, Monahan said the agreement would allow the PGA Tour to run tournaments as before, with him as commissioner and New York attorney Ed Herlihy as the chairman of the board.

Monahan would be CEO of the new for-profit company — he described it as a subsidiary of the PGA Tour — with Yasir Al-Rumayyan as the company's chairman. Al-Rumayyan is the governor of Saudi's wealth fund. Monahan, Al-Rumayyan, Herlihy and Jimmy Dunne — the PGA Tour board member who helped broker the deal — would form the executive committee.

"The PGA Tour will at all times hold the majority of the Board seats and be in control of this new entity, regardless of the size of PIF's investment," Monahan said, adding PIF would be a minority investor. □

New York Rangers hire Peter Laviolette as coach

By STEPHEN WHYNO
AP Hockey Writer

The New York Rangers have hired Peter Laviolette as their next coach, bringing in a seasoned veteran with Stanley Cup-winning experience to replace Gerard Gallant.

The team announced the selection of Laviolette on Tuesday, putting the U.S.-born leader in NHL coaching victories in charge at a time of great expectations, with the Original Six franchise firmly in win-now mode.

"With Peter's extensive experience as a head coach

in the National Hockey League, as well as the success his teams have had at several levels throughout his career, we are excited about what the future holds with him leading our team," general manager Chris Drury said in a statement.

Laviolette replaces Gallant, who mutually parted ways with the Rangers after their first-round playoff exit. Gallant spent two seasons behind the bench in New York, leading the team to the Eastern Conference final last year.

Since Drury, a former cap-

tain, has taken over as general manager, the directive from owner James Dolan down has been to win the organization's first championship since 1994.

Laviolette certainly has experience to fit the bill of doing that: He coached Carolina to the Stanley Cup in 2006 and has taken two other teams to the final: Philadelphia in 2010 and Nashville in 2017.

"Peter's impressive resume, which includes winning a Stanley Cup and advancing to the final with three different teams, has made him one of the most re-



Washington Capitals head coach Peter Laviolette talks during media availability at the team's NHL hockey training camp, Thursday, Sept. 23, 2021, in Arlington, Va.

Associated Press

spected coaches in the league," Dolan said. "As we move forward in our goal to consistently con-

tend for the Stanley Cup, I am confident that Peter is the right head coach to lead our team." □

Nuggets built a championship team the right way, and built it to last

By TIM REYNOLDS

This may be just the start for the Denver Nuggets.

The newly crowned NBA champions they got there Monday night, beating the Miami Heat 94-89 to end the NBA Finals in five games have five starters that are all 30 and under. They have a superstar leading the way, an elite second option, and a slew of really good players who could have bigger roles elsewhere yet chose to be part of something more meaningful.

All of that could have been said about the Golden State Warriors when they won their first of their four most recent titles in 2015.

Now, it's the Nuggets who are following a similar and proven formula.

"You know, Pat Riley said something many years ago," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said after it was all over. "I used to have it up on my board when I was a head coach in Sacramento, and it talked about the evolution in this game and how you go from a nobody to an upstart, and you go from an upstart to a winner and a winner to a contender and a contender to a champion, and the last step is after a champion is to be a dynasty."

Even in a championship moment, Malone is already thinking about more. Riley, the Heat president and a nine-time champion as a coach, player and execu-



Denver Nuggets players, coaches and owners pose with the Larry O'Brien NBA Championship Trophy after their victory over the Miami Heat in Game 5 of basketball's NBA Finals, Monday, June 12, 2023, in Denver.

Associated Press

tive, is wired the same way. It's not crazy to think the Nuggets can do more. For starters, they have Nikola Jokic.

There are other stars who stand out in their own ways. Philadelphia's Joel Embiid replaced Jokic as MVP this year, past MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo of Milwaukee may be the best two-way player in the league, Dallas' Luka Doncic is surely going to be an MVP before long but there's no other Jokic, who has gone from second-round pick to triple-double machine.

It's time to end all debate about Jokic. He's slow, can't jump and will never wow anyone with athleti-

cism. And none of that matters. He's smart, he's selfless and he's unstoppable. Period. End of story. The best player in the playoffs, the NBA Finals MVP, and now the big man from Sombor, Serbia is a champion. The days of any Jokic slander being allowed are officially over.

"I think there's more to come, actually, from Jok," Nuggets guard Jamal Murray said. "I think we haven't seen a side of Jok that we are going to see where he can be just pure dominance all the way, the whole game, even more than he has been."

Here's what the other 29 teams should say when

they hear that: "Yikes."

Murray is to Jokic what Dwyane Wade was to LeBron James, what Kobe Bryant was to Shaquille O'Neal (before it became the other way around), what Scottie Pippen was to Michael Jordan. He is Robin next to Batman, a guy who would be a No. 1 option on many other teams yet checked his ego at the door and made it work in Denver. Murray has sacrificed some stats. Some spotlight, too. The championship ring that he'll be getting this fall, however, will have exactly the same amount of diamonds as the one Jokic will get. It all evens out.

"To be here just kind of

rounds it out and shows that when we are given the right circumstances and everybody healthy, God willing, we can do it," Murray said. "I think when we're playing our best basketball, we are a very hard team to stop."

To be fair, this wasn't the toughest path a team ever took to a title. Denver beat two No. 8 seeds Minnesota and Miami along with a No. 7 seed in the Los Angeles Lakers and a No. 4 seed in Phoenix to win this championship. But it was dominant. The Nuggets never trailed in a series. They went 16-4 in the postseason. They won 10 of their final 11 games. They left no doubt. Malone was an assistant coach in Golden State just as the Warriors were starting down the path of becoming the NBA's immovable object. He left two years before Stephen Curry's first title to take over in Sacramento, getting fired early into Year 2 there. Then Denver hired him, and his first three seasons there resulted in zero playoff appearances. Usually, that gets a guy fired. The Nuggets kept him. The debt was repaid in full on Monday night. Patience paid off, and so did institutional belief that Malone was the right guy, that Jokic the greatest No. 41 pick in NBA draft history would become a great, that Denver was building something the right way. □

Kenya rewards runner Kipyegon with \$35,000 and house for breaking 2 world records

NAIROBI, Kenya (AP) — Distance runner Faith Kipyegon was given \$35,000 and a house by Kenyan President William Ruto on Tuesday as a reward for breaking two world records in the space of a week.

Kipyegon, who met with Ruto at the president's office, said she would now fulfill a promise she had made to buy her father a new car.

The 29-year-old Kipyegon, a two-time Olympic cham-

pion in the 1,500 meters, set a new 1,500 world record in Florence, Italy on June 2 when she broke the eight-year-old mark set by Genzebe Dibaba of Ethiopia. Kipyegon became the first woman to go under 3 minutes, 50 seconds with her 3:49.11.

She broke the 5,000 meters record last Friday at the Paris Diamond League meet by clocking 14:05.20, winning that race ahead of former world record-holder

Letesenbet Gidey of Ethiopia.

"Faith has made Kenya incredibly proud," Ruto said. "She stands as a shining model of consistency, discipline, hard work, as well as family. Faith is a great Kenyan woman a mother, a wife and a world champion rolled into one."

Ruto pledged that the Kenyan government will also give similar rewards to future world-record breakers. □



Faith Kipyegon, of Kenya, poses after winning the Women 5000 meters setting a new world record during the Meeting de Paris Diamond League athletics meet in Paris, Friday, June 9, 2023.

Associated Press